

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119739

ORIGIN EB-07

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FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05
CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02
EPG-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SIG-01 /093 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119739

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EPAP, ETRD

SUBJECT: SECOND UNCTAD RUBBER CONSULTATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 119739

1. THE UNCTAD RUBBER CONSULTATION IS SCHEDULED TO RESUME
IN GENEVA WITH A TWO-DAY LIMITED WORKING GROUP SESSION
JUNE 2-3 FOLLOWED BY A MEETING OF THE FULL GROUP JUNE 6-10.

2. AT THE JUNE MEETING, WE ARE AWARE THAT THE ASSOCIATION
OF NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES (ANRPC) PLANS TO
PRESENT A PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL RUBBER STABILI-

ZATION AGREEMENT INCLUDING BUFFER STOCK AND SUPPLY MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS. THE PROPOSAL IS SIMILAR TO THE ANRPC PRODUCERS' AGREEMENT PRESENTED AT THE JANUARY 1977 CONSULTATIONS, BUT WITH THE ADDITION OF TERMS FOR CONSUMER ACCESSION. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE PRODUCERS WISH TO OBTAIN A) CONSUMER CONFIRMATION THAT AN AGREEMENT ON RUBBER IS NEEDED AND CONSUMER AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON NATURAL RUBBER STABILIZATION, B) CONSUMER AGREEMENT THAT THE APPROPRIATE MECHANISM IS A BUFFER STOCK OPERATION SUPPLEMENTED BY SUPPLY MANAGEMENT, AND C) CONSUMER AGREEMENT TO SHARE IN THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF OPERATING THE AGREEMENT.

3. AS THIS WILL BE THE CONSUMERS FIRST FORMAL EXPOSURE TO THE PRODUCERS' PROPOSAL, WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT WILL BE NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE IN JUNE FOR CONSUMING NATIONS TO COMMIT TO A NEGOTIATION, GIVEN THE NEED FOR A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE ANRPC PROPOSAL. IN VIEW OF THE DIFFICULTY OF HOLDING THIS TYPE OF TECHNICAL EXAMINATION AT A PLENARY SESSION AND THE NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSUMERS TO CONSULT WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS, WE WOULD PREFER THAT THE SMALL INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, WHICH WILL MEET ON JUNE 2-3, HOLD SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS LATER IN THE SUMMER TO EXAMINE IN DETAIL THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE ANRPC PROPOSAL AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY BE PERTINENT TO A STABILIZATION ARRANGEMENT FOR RUBBER. THE RESULTS OF THESE MEETINGS COULD ESTABLISH PROGRESS TOWARD AN EVENTUAL NEGOTIATION.

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PAGE 03 STATE 119739

4. ACTION REQUESTED: POSTS SHOULD APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENTS INFORMING THEM OF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF PRODUCERS' PLANS AS OUTLINED IN PARA 2 AND OF OUR VIEWS CONCERNING THE DESIRABILITY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SMALL WORKING GROUP IN PARA 3. POSTS SHOULD STRESS IMPORTANCE OF CONSUMER COUNTRY COHESION AT THIS MEETING AND INDICATE THAT US DELEGATION LOOKS FORWARD TO CLOSE CONSULTATION AMONG MAJOR CONSUMERS AT GENEVA. PLEASE REPORT REACTIONS. VANCE

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